



Illustration by Jeanne R. Janish;
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AGASTACHE CUSICKII
CUSICK'S HORSE-MINT

Cusick's Horse-mint is a long-lived perennial with numerous stems, woody at the base arising from a branched rootcrown surmounting a taproot. Plants are 10-20 cm high, but the stems often lie prostrate beneath the surface spreading from the rootcrown. Opposite leaves have blades that are 1-2 cm long and triangular with a rounded base and a petiole that is up to 1 cm long. Foliage is covered with fine, short hairs. White flowers are borne amongst purple-tipped bracts in a head-like inflorescence that is 1.5-4 cm long. The tubular corolla is 8-12 mm long, and the purple-tinged calyx is tubular with 5 pointed lobes. The 5 stamens are exserted from the mouth of the flower tube. Flowering in late June-early July.

Unlike *AGASTACHE FOENICULUM* and the widespread *A. URTICIFOLIA*, its stems are consistently shorter than 40 cm and its leaves shorter than 3 cm.